



# St. Benedict Catholic Church

December 11, 2022

## Third Sunday of Advent

### PARISH:

ST. BENEDICT, Honaunau  
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### MISSION CHURCH:

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
Kealakekua

### WEEKEND MASSES

#### St. Benedict

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 7:15 a.m.

#### HAWAIIAN MASS

Every Second Sunday  
7:15 a.m.

#### St. John the Baptist

Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

### WEEKDAY MASSES

#### St. Benedict Honaunau

7:00 a.m. Tuesday,  
Thursday & Friday

#### St. John the Baptist

Wednesday 7:00 a.m.

### PASTOR

Rev. Siegfred Dosdos

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Susan Keen

### OFFICE STAFF

Penny Burgess

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

Edwina Fujimoto

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ariel Hadap

### FOOD PANTRY

Francisco and Debra Javar

### Joy: A Sign of God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS



Once, as I was teaching a theology course to college students in their twenties, I made an offhand comment that the purpose of life is not to be happy. They were shocked. "What's wrong with being happy?" they protested. "Nothing," I said, "it's simply not the purpose of life." "But God wants us to be happy," they insisted. Of course, God wants us to be happy, but that's simply not what life is about. Happiness is something that comes in the back door while we wait at the front door. If we go look-

ing for happiness, we never find it, but if we forget about ourselves and seek to bring joy into the lives of others, then happiness seems to find us. It comes in the back doors of life. Curiously, that seems to be the dynamic of these Advent/Christmas days. We send cards, give gifts, think of making others happy, and overlook faults. In the process, there is a sense of joy that overtakes us without our realizing it. The prophet Isaiah proclaimed that it is God who would crown them with everlasting joy; that they would meet with joy and gladness and sorrow and mourning would flee away (Isaiah 35:10). Joy is God's doing, not ours. Leon Bloy, a French novelist in the nineteenth century, observed, "Joy is the most infallible sign of the presence of God." God is love, and God is also joy. Joy is so much more than happiness. Rather it is an inner quality— peaceful, serene, and nurturing—even when life may be unsettled. ●

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### For Reflection

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\* *What brings you joy? Do something to bring joy to someone this week.*

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** Here is your God, He comes with vindication... Is 35:1-6a, 10

**Psalms:** Lord, come and save us. Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.

**Second Reading:** Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. Jas 5:7-10

**Gospel:** "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

Mt 11:2-11

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The office is closed on holidays and weekends.

**BULLETIN:** Articles and photos (with caption) for the bulletin must be *emailed* to [st.benedict@rcchawaii.org](mailto:st.benedict@rcchawaii.org) Submission deadline: TUESDAY at 5:00pm.

**WEBSITE:** [thepaintedchurchhawaii.org](http://thepaintedchurchhawaii.org)



## ALOHA AND WELCOME HOME!

### Updated Covid-19 Liturgical Directives and Cold & Flu Guidelines

All remaining Covid-19 liturgical restrictions are lifted except for the suspension of the distribution of the Precious Blood to the congregation.

As always, you are reminded to use common sense for your health and safety during the annual cold and flu season. If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from coming to Mass. In the same way, you should refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace. A smile and a heartfelt "Peace be with you" should suffice. All of us must be aware of such sensitive matter in the intimate life of the Christian community and we should expect that some will refrain from a physical expression of the sign of peace out of care of our well-being and not out of unkindness or lack of piety.

### SACRAMENTS

**Funerals** Please contact the office for information about available dates *before* making arrangements with the mortuary or cemetery.

**Baptisms** may take place according to the same guidelines as weekend Masses. They will be done in such a way that the same water is not poured on more than one person or stored in the font after use.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

At this time Father Sieg is available for Confessions by appointment, observing all proper precautions. Call the office 328-2227.

### Eucharist to Homebound and Hospitalized

Call the office to arrange for a visit from a priest or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

### **A WORD FROM Pope Francis**

Every yes to God gives rise to stories of salvation for us and for others. Like Mary with her own yes. In this Advent journey, God wishes to visit us and awaits our yes. Let's think: Today, what yes must I say to God?



ANGELUS, DECEMBER 8, 2016

### Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent

*O Almighty God,  
gracious provider and giver of  
life, we anxiously await the  
celebration of your birth.  
Like the people of long ago,  
our ancestors in faith,  
we, too, are in need of your  
Word, to show us the way. Our  
busy lives and the  
consumerism that surrounds us  
make it difficult to recognize your  
kingdom and to hear your voice.  
Help us Lord, to focus on you.  
Amen.*

### SAINT OF THE WEEK- FEAST DAY DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS — 1542-1591

St. John's father was shunned by his family because he married a poor orphan, and the son grew up in poverty. He became the servant of the poor in the hospital of Medina, Spain while studying theology. At 21 he was ordained a priest by Carmelites and then would have been sent to the strict Carthusian Order; however St. Teresa of Avila persuaded him to remain and help her as she was in the process of reforming the Order.

His reform was rejected by the elder friars who called him an apostate and put him in prison where he suffered and his life was daily at risk. Twice more he was harshly persecuted by his order and publicly disgraced. This abandonment deepened his faith, his interior peace and devout longing for heaven. He was known for his writings and poetry. He was canonized in 1726 and he is a Doctor of the Church. *"The endurance of darkness is the preparation for great light,"* a quote from his writings.





# STEWARDSHIP

MAXIMIZING GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR HIS GLORY

## Pray the Rosary Daily

## PRAYER

### CALENDAR

**MONDAY** December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**TUESDAY** December 13 St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Mt 21:28-32

**WEDNESDAY** December 14 St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Lk 7:18b-23

**THURSDAY** December 15 Advent Weekday Is 54:1-10 Lk 7:24-30

**FRIDAY** December 16 Advent Weekday Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 Jn 5:33-36

**SATURDAY** December 17 Advent Weekday Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17

**SUNDAY** December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent Is 7:10-14 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24

*My soul  
proclaims  
the greatness  
of the Lord,  
My spirit  
rejoices in God  
my Savior  
for He has looked  
with favor on  
His lowly servant.*



(from the Canticle of Mary)

### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give your angels charge over those who sleep.

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.

Rest your weary ones. Bless your dying ones. Soothe your suffering ones. Pity your afflicted ones.

Shield your joyous ones.

And for all your love's sake. Amen.

*-Saint Augustine-*

### FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH, KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Clifford Chow Jr., Patsy Sabarre, Bernard Labasan, Azarias Dosdos, John Herman, Janet Katakura, Merton Ogata, Carol Crusat, Henry Borges, Jim Shrewsbury, Emily Griego, John Sanchis, Rafael Ramirez, Jeffrey Crusat, Robin Crusat, William Anderson, Linda Adkins, Gloria Grapa, Tamayo Hanato, Caroline Smith, Hilda Sebastian, Elizabeth Awa, Ruby Ann Kaho'onei, Johnny Koene, Keiki San Filippo.

Call the office to add your loved one or yourself to the list of those needing prayer.

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus,  
I believe that  
You are present  
In the Most Holy  
Sacrament.  
I love You  
above all things,  
and I desire  
to receive You  
into my soul.  
Since I cannot  
at this moment  
receive You  
sacramentally,  
come at least  
spiritually into  
my heart.*

*I embrace You  
as if You were  
already there and  
unite myself  
wholly to You.  
Never permit me  
to be separated  
from You.*

*Amen*

*Thank God...  
for the gift of Jesus*





**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Gaudete Sunday**

[Matthew 11:2-11]  
[Isaiah 35:1-6]  
[James 5:7-10]

**Treasure Hunt**

1. In Latin, *Gaudete* means “\_\_\_\_\_”.
2. The **third** candle of the Advent Wreath is the \_\_\_\_\_’s Candle. Common folk like them anxiously awaited the birth of Jesus.
3. Isaiah presents a poetic image of the parched land that will “r\_\_\_\_\_” and “b\_\_\_\_\_” upon seeing the glory and splendor of God.
4. In the *Second Reading* James tells us that preparing for the coming of Jesus takes both **h\_\_\_\_\_** and **p\_\_\_\_\_**’
5. **Name the prophet** who originally said: “Behold I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.”
6. According to Jesus, **what** is the only thing greater than John the Baptist?

**BONUS:** [www.catholichawaii.org](http://www.catholichawaii.org)

**Part III: Confession & Absolution**

- a) Water is a metaphor for our spiritual lives because water always seeks to return to its source. **Sin** builds a \_\_\_\_\_ disconnecting us from God, our Source.
- b) \_\_\_\_\_ is the process of releasing us from our sins.

**Answers to last week’s Treasure Hunt**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

-1– Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph’s; -2– Jordan, John the Baptist, repentance, good fruits; -3– Jesse Tree, justice, harmony; -4– Pope Francis; **BONUS:** (a) sin; (b) examination of conscience, contrition.

**MAHALO !**

This year we want to thank, again, Keoni Jenny, Dale Delaries, and Wynn Hanato-Smith for providing St. John Mission Church with another beautiful Advent wreath. Thank you for your time and talent!



*“Advent is a favorable time to pray with greater intensity, to reserve to the spiritual life the important place it deserves.”*

*Pope Francis, Angelus, 10th December 2017*

*Dear Padre*

**I struggle with depression, and sometimes it gets really bad during the holidays. When is it morally acceptable to use antidepressant medication?**

You are not alone. People who struggle with depression often find the holidays especially difficult. To answer your question, it is morally acceptable to use antidepressant medications when a medical professional judges them to be the best response to the condition of the patient. As we learn more about the causes of depression and other disorders that challenge the sense of equilibrium in people, we hope that the most reliable responses may be found and employed to restore a sense of peace to those suffering from these ailments. Evaluation and treatment of depression must be done within the context of a person’s whole life. Depression often involves a chemical imbalance in the brain, and some people respond quite well to antidepressants. For others, the best treatment might be counseling or psychotherapy. Or both medicine and therapy. As each experience of suffering is unique, so, too, must be the response. Frequently people will be embarrassed to admit to suffering with depression or consider it a sign of weakness or inability to deal with matters in life. Such thinking is of little help in resolving the issue. People who experience depression need the love and support of family and friends to accompany them in the suffering and to assist in their healing.

**From Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews, © 2011 Liguori Publication**

SERVICE

**MAHALO FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP!**

Thank you to everyone who helped recently with preparations for our Reconciliation Service, including the liturgy and the priests’ dinner. Also mahalo to those who made the Advent wreath for St. Benedict and changed the linens to purple. Your willingness to take care of so many details is greatly appreciated.

**ST. BENEDICT FOOD PANTRY**

The **regular** St. Benedict Food Pantry schedule continues to be the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 9 am to 10 am. **PLEASE NOTE –EXCEPTION: NEXT OPEN ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER DISTRIBUTION DATES will be ONLY on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.**